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## Johan Forssell

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### [Government phasing out bilateral development aid with Iraq](#)

The Government has decided to begin a phase-out of Sweden's strategy for development cooperation with Iraq. This phase-out will be done responsibly, and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) have been tasked with concluding operations by 30 June 2025.

Published 18 July 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#)

### [Government increases support to vulnerable and persecuted journalists](#)

The Government has decided to support the Reporters Shield initiative with SEK 5 million over a two-year period. Reporters Shield is a new long-term support programme that provides legal support to journalists and other media actors operating in repressive environments when they are targeted by baseless lawsuits.

Published 16 July 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

### [Swedish Government supports affected families following missile attack on Kyiv children's hospital](#)

Through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) humanitarian fund, to which Sweden is a major donor, it was possible to provide immediate assistance to people affected by the missile attack on the children's hospital in Ohmatdyt on 8 July. The Government is now preparing a decision to provide an additional SEK 5 million in urgent humanitarian assistance to the ongoing response. This support will be channelled through UNICEF and go directly to the affected children and their families.

Published 16 July 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

### [Karin Tegmark Wisell appointed as Sweden's Ambassador for Global Health](#)

The Government's new reform agenda, 'Development assistance for a new era – freedom, empowerment and sustainable growth', has a particular focus on improved health for the most vulnerable people. Initiatives are needed to improve prospects of good health, ensure functioning health and medical care systems, and strengthen preparedness, in order to better address health threats at global level. Sweden has an important role to play in these efforts.

Published 09 July 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Jakob Forssmed](#), [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#), [Ministry of Health and Social Affairs](#)

### [The Government pays out SEK 100 million to UNRWA](#)

The Government is paying out SEK 100 million in core support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The disbursement is being made in response to the urgent humanitarian situation in Gaza and in light of the new measures UNRWA has taken to strengthen internal supervision and control.

Published 28 June 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

### [Johan Forssell visited Kyiv with a large business delegation](#)

The first-ever Swedish minister-led business delegation visited Ukraine this week. The delegation was headed by Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell. In Kyiv, the delegation met with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy and held roundtable discussions with a tailored line-up of Ukrainian ministers, including Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal. The new Swedish trade office was also inaugurated.

Published 26 June 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

### [Plan for enhanced cooperation between Sweden and Chile](#)

In 2019, Sweden and Chile celebrated 200 years of bilateral relations. Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell and Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs Alberto van Klaveren Stork now confirmed the strong relations by signing a bilateral roadmap.

Published 14 June 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

### [Johan Forssell in Berlin: Ukraine support increasing](#)



This year's Ukraine Recovery Conference (URC2024) is being held against the backdrop of further intensified Russian attacks against the people of Ukraine and its infrastructure.

Published 12 June 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Johan Forssell takes part in Ukraine Recovery Conference in Berlin](#)

On 10–11 June, Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell will travel to Berlin to take part in the annual Ukraine Recovery Conference together with Business Sweden's CEO Jan Larsson and Director-General of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) Jakob Granit. This year's conference will focus in particular on the important role of the private sector in reconstruction, the importance of international cooperation and the human dimension. During his visit to Berlin, Mr Forssell will also meet with the German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze. He will also visit the German Vattenfall office.

Published 10 June 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Government adopts new regional strategy for Syria crisis](#)

The Government has adopted a new regional strategy for the Syria crisis. It comprises SEK 880 million over three years and is being implemented by Sida. Sweden's engagement is aimed at supporting the Syrian population in Syria, Syrian refugees and vulnerable groups in host societies in the neighbouring countries Jordan, Lebanon and Türkiye.

Published 07 June 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Svenskt Tenn wins 2023 Cultural and Creative Industries Export Prize](#)

On 3 June, Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell presented the Government's 2023 Cultural and Creative Industries Export Prize. The Prize has been awarded since 2017 and the winner is chosen by a jury consisting of representatives of the cultural and creative industries. This year's Prize went to Svenskt Tenn, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The Rising Star Award was presented to Hanna Hansdotter, one of the most interesting and innovative glass artists of our time.

Published 03 June 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Speech by Johan Forssell on Africa Day](#)

Speech by Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell on the occasion of Africa Day. Egyptian Embassy, Stockholm, 28 May. Check against delivery.

Published 31 May 2024 · [Speech](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Qatar's Minister of State for International Cooperation visited Sweden](#)

On 23–24 May, Qatar's Minister of State for International Cooperation Lolwah bint Rashid Al-Khater visited Stockholm at the invitation of State Secretary Diana Janse. The visit also included meetings with Minister for Foreign Affairs Tobias Billström and Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell. The purpose of the visit was to discuss cooperation on development assistance, Ukraine's reconstruction and the war in Gaza.

Published 28 May 2024 · [Article](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Tobias Billström](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [New energy package to strengthen Ukraine's resilience](#)

Today, the Government is presenting a new energy package to Ukraine in the amount of SEK 650 million. This support will help secure Ukraine's energy supply to ensure that fundamental public services, such as schools, hospitals, transport, water supply and businesses, can continue to run.

Published 28 May 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Focus on trade and investments as Johan Forssell visits London](#)

On 23 May, Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell is travelling to London for the third annual UK-Sweden Business Forum. Mr Forssell is meeting with Minister of State for Trade Policy Greg Hands and Swedish and British companies for a roundtable discussion on trade and investments in the building, transport and logistics sectors.

Published 23 May 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Major conference on Belarus in Stockholm on 21–22 May](#)

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Stockholm Centre for Eastern European Studies have organised a conference on Belarus to strengthen dialogue with Belarusian democratic forces in exile.

Published 21 May 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Parisa Liljestrand](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#), [Ministry of Culture](#)

#### [Government increases humanitarian support to Gaza](#)

In view of the extensive humanitarian needs in Gaza, the Government has presented a new humanitarian aid package amounting to EUR 10.5 million. The support will be distributed to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the World Food Programme

(WFP).

Published 17 May 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Focus on SRHR and trade relations as Johan Forssell visits Zambia](#)

Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell is visiting Zambia on 14–16 May. Mr Forssell is announcing Sweden's new strategy for development cooperation, which places a stronger emphasis on women's and girls' access to antenatal care and safe abortions.

Published 14 May 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Donors address humanitarian crisis facing the Yemeni people](#)

The humanitarian situation is deteriorating in Yemen amidst escalating regional dynamics. Senior representatives from across the humanitarian community gathered in Brussels today at the sixth Yemen Humanitarian Senior Officials Meeting (SOM VI), co-hosted by Sweden and the European Commission, to address the most immediate emergencies and to ensure a timely lifesaving response.

Published 07 May 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

#### [Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell travels to Georgia](#)

On 7 May, Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Johan Forssell will visit Georgia's capital city Tbilisi together with State Secretary Diana Janse. There, they will meet with official representatives, civil society and opposition government representatives.

Published 07 May 2024 · [Press release](#) from [Johan Forssell](#), [Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)

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